

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL VISION - 2030

1. My Comments:

1.1. Good morning Secretary Kawamura, A.G., and members of the State Board of Food and Agriculture. I am Bob Seat a Director on the Board of the Orange County Farm Bureau. I would like to comment on my vision for California agriculture in 2030 by speaking first on:

1.1.1. *My vision for Agriculture in the Coastal areas of Southern California,*

1.1.2. *And what will be the biggest challenge in achieving the vision both here and the whole State.*

1.1.3. *Leading to my belief as to what we "must have" for a flourishing agriculture in 2030.*

1.2. In 1988 the State Population was about 28 million; Today it is about 38 million and forecast to be over 46 Million in 2030. So we are growing at about 5 million every 10 years

1.3. In the 90's, a MIT study was detailed in Scientific American Magazine in an article describing a city, by the middle of this century, they called Megalopolus and it ran continuous from San Diego to Santa Barbara.

1.4. As a retired Marine I was sure that El Toro Marine Base was here for years to come. But suddenly, in 1999 it was closed and today 1/3 of its 4,000 acres are to become "The Great Park." However, 2/3 of the 4,000 acres will have thousands of homes built there.

1.5. The Marines are good at war but I think by 2030 they will have lost the " Battle of Camp Pendleton!" And Camp Pendleton's 125,000 acres will be up for development just like El Toro. But development of large areas always ends up with farming on the land to make it cost effective for the Developers until they are ready to develop sections over a period of years.

1.6. Therefore, I see a lot of farming going on in the coastal area in the years through 2030.

1.7. Now we get to the biggest challenge and it is the same here and across the entire State; Namely, agriculture needs a stable & reliable source of water. Every farmer knows this and the last two issues of CFBF's AgAlert paper has excellent articles by farmers telling what is happening as they are cut back on their

water. THE PROBLEM IS, WE ARE PREACHING TO THE CHOIR!

1.8. So this leads me to the "must have" part of my comments on my Ag Vision. We have to do more than preach to the choir.

Until the public is convinced that there is a problem we are *never going to see the vision come to pass. And how would I recommend we reach the public?*

1.9. If every Agricultural business, Crop Farmers, Dairys, Nurseries, Tree growers and Wineries started putting a label on every item that we sell that says' for instance, *These strawberries will not be available in a few years if we don't build a waterway to the State Water pumps and additional reservoir storage. Help us keep strawberries on your table! Only you can vote for the waterway and reservoirs to protect your food and keep the cost down!*